



News Release

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Walla Walla County: Boil-water advisory issued for Green Tank district

OLYMPIA — The state Department of Health and the Green Tank Irrigation District 11 advise residents served by Green Tank to boil their tap water or buy bottled water until further notice. Potentially harmful bacteria have been detected in the water system.

The advisory affects about 170 homes and businesses served by Green Tank. The district's service area is generally [north of College Place and west of Walla Walla](http://wallawallagis.com/PDFS/MAPS/WATER_SERVICE_AREAS/GREEN%20TANK%20IRRIGATION%20DISTRICT.pdf) (http://wallawallagis.com/PDFS/MAPS/WATER_SERVICE_AREAS/GREEN%20TANK%20IRRIGATION%20DISTRICT.pdf).

E. coli was detected in routine water samples. The state health Office of Drinking Water is working closely with the water system's operator to pinpoint the source of contamination and fix the problem. It may be tied to pump failures that occurred last week.

The health advisory includes several precautionary steps customers should take. Use boiled water or bottled water for drinking, brushing teeth, preparing food, dishwashing, and making ice. Tap water should be boiled for one minute and allowed to cool before use.

While there have been no reports of illness associated with this contamination event, the advisory will remain in effect until the water system operator and the state health agency are satisfied there is no longer a health threat to the system's customers.

Customers who have questions should call Green Tank Irrigation District at 509-525-4608, or Walla Walla County Health District (Barry Jenkins or Jeanette Lightfoot) at 509-524-2662.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for a healthy dose of information.